

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CURACA 00203 172019Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-03 L-03 SCSE-00 SCA-01 OPR-02 SY-04 DRC-01

/109 W

----- 097267

P 171545Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO ACTION RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1788

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS CURACAO 0203

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, ELAB, ECON, NA

SUBJECT: LABOR PROBLEMS OF ARUBA HOTELS

1. HOTELS ON ARUBA HAVE BEEN STRUCK BECAUSE OF A JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTE BETWEEN THE HOTEL WORKERS UNION OF ARUBA (HWUA) AND THE ARUBAN WORKERS FEDERATION (FTA). MOST WORKERS AT ARUBAN HOTELS ARE MEMBERS OF HWUA BUT FTA CLAIMS A MAJORITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL AND HAS BEEN ASKING FOR RECOGNITION BY MEMBERS OF THE ARUBAN HOTEL ASSOCIATION (AHA), HWUA HAS BEEN OPPOSED TO SUCH RECOGNITION CLAIMING THEY ARE COMPETENT TO REPRESENT ALL HOTEL WORKERS.

2. MINISTER OF LABOR RUFUS MCWILLIAM WENT PERSONALLY TO ARUBA LAST WEEK TO MEDIATE THE DISPUTE AND DECLARED A 30-DAY COOLING OFF PERIOD. IN SPITE OF THIS, FTA HAS REINSTITUTED THE STRIKE WHICH THE AHA CLAIMS IS ILLEGAL, AHA NOW SAYS THEY CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR EITHER SERVICE TO THEIR GUESTS OR FOR THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CURACA 00203 172019Z

GUESTS SAFETY. AHA CLAIMS THAT FTA HAS BEEN INTIMIDATING THOSE EMPLOYEES WHO DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STRIKE AND IS THREATENING REVIEW OF ALL EMPLOYEE POSITIONS.

3. THE HOLIDAY INN ON ARUBA HAS INFORMED ITS OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES THAT IT WILL NOT TAKE RESERVATIONS UNTIL THE DISPUTE IS SETTLED. OTHER ARUBAN HOTELS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE SIMILAR ACTION INCLUDING CANCELLATION OF GROUP RESERVATIONS.

4. COMMENT: THE STRIKE HAS COME AT THE END OF THE TOURIST SEASON BUT WHILE ARUBAN HOTELS ARE STILL DOING GOOD BUSINESS. THERE WILL, NO DOUBT, BE FUTURE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON ARUBAN TOURISM WHICH IS THE MAINSTAY OF THE ISLAND'S ECONOMY HAVING DRAWN 177,000 VISITORS IN 1973. PLANS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TOURIST HOTELS IN ARUBA, WHICH PLAY A LARGE PART IN THE ISLAND GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS, MAY ALSO BE DELAYED. THE PROBLEM OF THE STRIKE'S LEGALITY MAY EVENTUALLY BE SETTLED IN COURT, BUT IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT FTA IS STRONG ENOUGH TO GAIN RECOGNITION. HWUA MAY INSIST ON AN ELECTION, HOWEVER, FTA HAD ORIGINALLY DEMANDED THIS AND IS CONFIDENT OF ITS POWER TO WIN RECOGNITION IN THIS MANNER. THERE EXISTS THE POSSIBILITY OF A GENERAL STRIKE IF FTA IS PUSHED TOO FAR. GNA AND ARUBAN AUTHORITIES WILL DO THEIR UTMOST TO AVOID THIS CONTINGENCY WHICH COULD DEVASTATE THE ISLAND'S ECONOMY.
LOFTON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR DISPUTES, HOTELS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR ARBITRATION, JOB EVALUATION, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CURACA00203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740089-0231
From: CURACAO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740437/aaaabhfg.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by BryanSD>; APPROVED <23 DEC 2002 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR PROBLEMS OF ARUBA HOTELS
TAGS: PINS, ELAB, ECON, OVIP, NA, HOTEL WORKERS UNION OF ARUBA (HWUA), ARUBAN WORKERS FEDERATION, (MCWILLIAM, RUFUS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005